

SENATE BILL 2822
By Fowler

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 16,
Chapter 15, Part 5, relative to the jurisdictional
limits of general sessions courts.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 16-15-501, is amended by adding
the following new subdivision (3) to subsection (d) and renumbering current subdivision (3):

(3)

(A) Unless otherwise covered by this subsection, any county, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of its county legislative body, may extend the jurisdiction of courts of general sessions, where they have been created, to the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) in all civil cases, both law and equity.

(B) Notwithstanding subdivision (1), the courts of general sessions shall have unlimited original jurisdiction in the following cases:

(i) Forcible entry and detainer; and

(ii) Actions to recover personal property where such original unlimited jurisdiction shall include the jurisdiction to award an alternative money judgment.

(C) Courts of general sessions shall also have jurisdiction to issue restraining orders and to enforce the penalty provisions for violation of such restraining orders.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect September 1, 2006, the public welfare requiring it.